

Application No. 09/881,527

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please amend claim 2 as follows:

2. A method of matching a pet ~~The method of Claim 1~~, said pet being a dog, said predetermined criteria for assigning said breed code to said plurality of breeds of said pet ~~comprising:~~ with an appropriate product comprising the steps of
- a. assigning a breed code to a plurality of breeds of a pet based on predetermined criteria, said predetermined criteria for assigning said breed code to said plurality of breeds of said pet comprising:
    - a— assigning an exercise factor to each of said breeds of said pet based on predetermined criteria;
    - b.— assigning a weight factor to each of said breeds of said pet based on predetermined criteria, and;
    - e.— combining said exercise factor and said weight factor in a predetermined manner to determine said breed code;
  - b. categorizing a product to determine whether said product is appropriate for said plurality of breeds of said pet assigned to said breed code;
  - c. publishing said assignment of said breed code and said categorization of said product to allow a consumer to appropriately match said product to said breeds of said pet.

Amend the claims as follows:

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What is Claimed is:

1. (canceled) A method of matching an pet with an appropriate product comprising the steps of

- a. assigning a breed code to a plurality of breeds of a pet based on predetermined criteria;
- b. categorizing a product to determine whether said product is appropriate for said plurality of breeds of said pet assigned to said breed code;

c. publishing said assignment of said breed code and said categorization of said product to allow a consumer to appropriately match said product to said breeds of said pet.

2. (amended) A method of matching a pet ~~The method of Claim 1~~, said pet being a dog, ~~said predetermined criteria for assigning said breed code to said plurality of breeds of said pet comprising:~~ with an appropriate product comprising the steps of

a. assigning a breed code to a plurality of breeds of a pet based on predetermined criteria, said predetermined criteria for assigning said breed code to said plurality of breeds of said pet comprising: a. assigning an exercise factor to each of said breeds of said pet based on predetermined criteria;

b. assigning a weight factor to each of said breeds of said pet based on predetermined criteria, and;

e. combining said exercise factor and said weight factor in a predetermined manner to determine said breed code;

b. categorizing a product to determine whether said product is appropriate for said plurality of breeds of said pet assigned to said breed code;

c. publishing said assignment of said breed code and said categorization of said

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product to allow a consumer to appropriately match said product to said breeds of said pet.

3. (original) The method of Claim 2, said weight factor being a numerical weight factor and said exercise factor being a numerical exercise factor, said predetermined manner for combining said exercise factor and said weight factor comprising addition of said exercise factor and said weight factor.

4. (canceled) The method of Claim 1, said pet being a cat, said predetermined criteria for assigning said breed code to said plurality of breeds of said pet comprising:

- a. assigning a temperament factor to each of said plurality of breeds of said pet based on predetermined criteria;
- b. assigning a need for attention factor to each of said plurality of breeds of said pet based on predetermined criteria;
- c. combining said temperament factor and said need for attention factor to determine said breed code.

5. (canceled) The method of Claim 6, said temperament factor being a numerical temperament factor and said need for attention factor being a numerical need for attention factor, said predetermined manner for combining said temperament factor and said need for attention factor comprising addition of said temperament factor and said need for attention factor.

6. (canceled) A method for matching a pet with an appropriate product comprising placing indicia on a product for a pet or on a container therefor, or on any means in the proximity thereof, that indicates its compatibility with the pet having the same indicia or a corresponding indicia.

7. (canceled) The method of Claim 6, said indicia comprising a breed code.

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8. (canceled) A product for a pet or a container therefor having thereon indicia indicating that the product is compatible with a pet having the same or corresponding indicia to the indicia assigned thereto.

9. (canceled) The product of Claim 8, said indicia comprising a breed code.

10. (canceled) An apparatus for matching a pet with an appropriate product comprising a client computer programmed to receive from a server computer over a computer network and to display to a user an identification of a product and further programmed to display indicia indicating that the product is compatible with a pet having the same indicia or corresponding indicia.

11. (canceled) The apparatus of Claim 10, said indicia comprising a breed code.

12. (canceled) An apparatus for matching a pet with an appropriate product comprising a server computer programmed to transmit over a computer network to a server computer for display to a user an identification of a product and indicia indicating that the product is compatible with a pet having the same or corresponding indicia.

13. (canceled) The apparatus of Claim 12, said indicia comprising a breed code.